Working in Canada-
Regulations for
International Students

Presented by:
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International Student Advisor
September 21, 2022
AGENDA

- Work on campus (without a work permit)
- Work off campus (without a work permit)
- Work as a co-op student or intern
- Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)
- Spousal Applications (Open Work Permit)
- Q & A
You can work on campus if you:

- Are a full-time student at a DLI
  - If you are a part-time student in your last term and you were a full-time student up until your last term
- Have a valid study permit
- Have a SIN

How many hours can I work on campus?

- **Unlimited** number of hours from immigration perspective
- **Note**: No more than an average of 10 hours per week for graduate students. Please contact your Program if you would like to work on campus for more than 10 hours/week.

https://grad.uwo.ca/administration/regulations/4.html
WORK OFF CAMPUS
(WITHOUT A WORK PERMIT)

You can work off campus if you:

✓ Are a full-time student at a DLI
  ✓ If you are a part-time student in your last term and you were a full-time student up until your last term

✓ You are enrolled in a post-secondary program that leads to a degree, diploma or certificate and that is at least 6 months long

✓ Have a valid study permit

✓ Have a SIN

How many hours can I work off campus?

• During school terms
  • You can work up to 20 hours per week.

• During scheduled breaks
  • You can work full-time.
    ○ Must be a full-time student both before and after the break.

NOTE: Graduate programs at Western don’t have summer breaks.
YOU CANNOT WORK IN CANADA IF

• your study permit does not say you can work
• you haven’t started your program
• you are not a full-time student, unless you’re in your final academic session
• you are on an authorized leave from your studies
• you are switching schools and you are not studying
• you have completed your study program*
• your student status has expired
ELIGIBILITY FOR A CO-OP WORK PERMIT

- a valid Study Permit
- employment must be an essential part of your program
- a letter from school
  - that confirms all students in your program need to complete work placements to get their degree
- Co-op or internship totals 50% or less of study program

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work/intern.html

International and Exchange Student Centre
POST-GRADUATION WORK PERMIT (PGWP)

“One time” gift for international students to gain Canadian work experience.

An OPEN work permit

• You do not need a job offer to apply
• You can work for any employer
• You can work anywhere in Canada
• You can work at any jobs
• The job does not need to be related to your degree
PGWP – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
INSIDE CANADA GRADUATES

You have 180 days to apply for a PGWP after completion of program

- A valid study permit at some point during the 180 days

Completed a study program

- at an eligible DLI
- at least 8 months long
- leading to a degree, diploma or certificate

Maintained full-time student status

- except final academic session, which can be part-time
- Or an approved leave of absence (case by case)

Received final transcripts AND a PGWP letter

- from Registrar’s Office

COVID-19: If you had to stop studying or change to part-time studies between March 2020 and Fall 2020 due to COVID-19, you may still be eligible for a PGWP. Please keep all the supporting documents.

Don’t let your status expire!
Your study permit expires as of the expiry date on the permit or 90 days after the day you complete your studies, whichever comes first.
PGWP – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA OUTSIDE CANADA GRADUATES

Special measures due to Covid-19:

• You don’t have to have held a valid study permit if you
  • were enrolled in a program that was in progress in March 2020 or
  • started or will start a program between spring 2020 and summer 2022 and
    • you have a study permit or
    • you’ve been approved for a study permit or
    • you applied for a study permit before starting your study program
      • Your study permit must eventually be approved.

• Only the time studying outside Canada after you submitted your study permit application counts towards the length of your PGWP.

• Any time studying outside Canada after August 31, 2023 is not counted.

• You may still be eligible for a PGWP if you had to stop studying or change to part-time studies between March 2020 and Fall 2020.

* You must meet all the other eligibility criteria for PGWP.
**LENGTH OF PGWP**

You **may** be eligible for a Work Permit that is valid for up to 3 years depending on the length of your *program* of study.

**NOTE:** You can’t get a PGWP if you already had one after completing an earlier program of study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official length of program</th>
<th>PGWP validity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 8 months</td>
<td>NOT ELIGIBLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 8 months &amp; &lt; 2 years</td>
<td>Up to the same length as your program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years or more</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a 16-23 month, full-time graduate program with no breaks</td>
<td>*A PGWP may be issued for 3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two PGWP-eligible programs completed within 2 years</td>
<td>PGWP may combine the length of each program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM

There are 2 ways you can work full-time after you complete your program:

• If you have applied for a PGWP and you meet all of these conditions:
  • You had a valid study permit when you submitted your PGWP application
  • You have completed your study program
  • You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  • You didn’t work more hours than you were allowed to

• Please note:
  You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.
WORK AUTHORIZATION AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAM

• If you are starting a new study program and you meet all of these conditions:
  • You have officially completed your study program
  • You were eligible to work off-campus without a work permit while studying
  • You have a valid study permit or you applied to extend your study permit before it expired
  • You received a LOA to a new full-time program at a DLI
  • You will start your new program within 150 days after you complete your previous program

• Please note:
  You must stop working the day you are notified by IRCC that your application is refused.
SPOUSES / COMMON-LAW PARTNERS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

• A spouse or common-law partner (non-student) of a full-time international student in a PGWP-eligible program may apply for an open work permit.

• The Work Permit will have the same expiry date as their spouse's Study Permit.

• Spouses needing assistance with job searching are invited to contact IESC.
APPLYING FOR A SIN

- You can apply online or by mail.
- If you are unable to apply online or by mail you have the option to apply in person.
- If you apply for a SIN online or by mail and your application meets the requirements, you will receive a letter with your SIN by mail within 20 business days from the date the application is received. If more than 25 business days have passed and you would like to find out the status of your application, contact the SIN program.
- There is no fee to apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN).
ADVISING SERVICES FALL 2022

Appointments
https://iesc.uwo.ca/appointment/index.html
• Virtual via Microsoft Teams or telephone appointment
• Monday – Friday, 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

Drop Ins
• In person, IGAB 2nd floor
• Monday – Friday, 1 - 4 pm

Immigration FAQ sessions
• Virtual on zoom
• Fridays 9-10am

Immigration workshops
• IESC events calendar: http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/
• IESC weekly network email

Office Hours & Reception
• Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
• Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 89309
• Email: iesc@uwo.ca
# FALL 2022 CAREER/IMMIGRATION WORKSHOPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Students: Canadian Career Realities</td>
<td>Sept 27, 5:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students: Canadian Career Realities</td>
<td>Sept 28, 12:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>UCC 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-op Work Permit</td>
<td>Oct 6, 12:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Permit Extensions &amp; Amendments</td>
<td>Oct 19, 12:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-op Work Permit</td>
<td>Oct 20, 12:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-op Work Permit</td>
<td>Nov 3, 12:30-1:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Graduation Work Permit</td>
<td>Nov 9, 12:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-op Work Permit</td>
<td>Nov 17, 5:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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- [http://career.uwo.ca/prepare/events_workshops/](http://career.uwo.ca/prepare/events_workshops/)
- [http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/](http://www.events.westernu.ca/events/iesc/)